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PATENT

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

(Case No. MBHB02,742-F (400/131))

IN THE APPLICATION OF:

McSwiggen, *et al.*

Serial No. 10/665,951

Filed: September 18, 2003

Title RNA Interference Mediated  
Inhibition Of Vascular Endothelial  
Growth Factor And Vascular  
Endothelial Growth Factor Receptor  
Gene Expression Using Short  
Interfering Nucleic Acid (siNA)

Examiner:

To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit: 1635

Confirmation No.: 8325

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

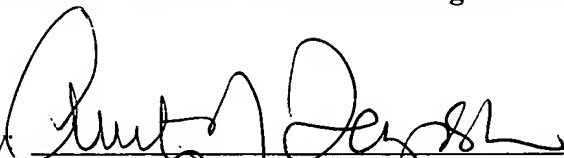
In regard to the above identified application,

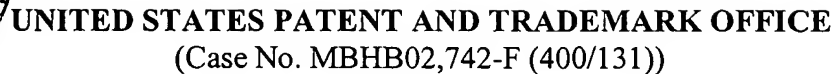
1. We are transmitting herewith the attached:
  - a) Response to Notice Regarding Benefit/Priority Claim(s) mailed 12/16/2004;
  - b) Copy of Notice Regarding Benefit/Priority Claim(s);
  - c) Supplemental Application Data Sheet;
  - d) Oath/Declaration; and
  - e) Return postcard
2. With respect to fees:
  - a) It is believed no fee is due at this time.
3. GENERAL AUTHORIZATION: Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2490. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

4. CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described in paragraph 1 hereinabove, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 25 day of February 2005.

Respectfully submitted,  
**McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP**

Date: February 25, 2005

By   
Anita J. Terpstra, Ph.D.  
Registration No. 47,132



IN THE APPLICATION OF:

McSwiggen, *et al.*

Serial No. 10/665,951

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Title RNA Interference Mediated Inhibition Of Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor And Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor Receptor Gene Expression Using Short Interfering Nucleic Acid (siNA)

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

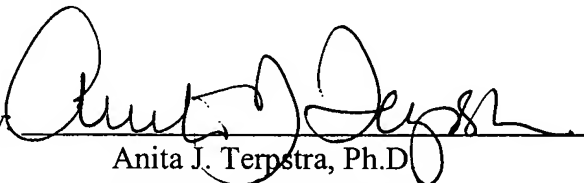
In response to the Notice Regarding Benefit/Priority Claim(s) of December 16, 2004, of which a copy is attached, Applicants hereby submit a copy of the Supplemental Application Data Sheet and Oath/Declaration.

The Office has alleged that Applicant's priority claim is incorrect for improper reference to an alleged National Phase application under 35 U.S.C. 371. Applicants have reviewed the priority claims of the instant application and furnish herewith a copy of the Supplemental Application Data Sheet and Oath/Declaration to place the priority claim in proper order. Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

Applicant believes that no fee is due in connection with this filing; however, if a fee is due the Commissioner is authorized to charge our deposit account number 13-1249.

Respectfully submitted,  
McDonnell, Boehnen, Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

Date: February 25, 2005

By   
Anita J. Terpstra, Ph.D.  
Registration No. 47,132



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

FEB 28 2005

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
 United States Patent and Trademark Office  
 Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
10/665,951	09/18/2003	James McSwiggen	MBHB02-742-F(400.131)

CONFIRMATION NO. 8325



\*OC000000014778944\*

020306  
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 32ND FLOOR  
 CHICAGO, IL 60606

Date Mailed: 12/16/2004

### Notice Regarding Benefit/Priority Claim(s)

#### ☐ Improper Benefit Claim(s) to Prior-Filed Nonprovisional Application(s)

The benefit claim(s) to prior-filed nonprovisional application(s) is improper because there is no specific reference for each prior-filed application that includes: (1) the identification of the prior-filed application by application number, or international application number and international filing date; and (2) a clear indication the relationship (i.e., continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part) of the nonprovisional applications. For example, applicant should amend the specification to include a specific reference, such as "This application is a continuation of Application No. 10/---,--- filed ---," in the first sentence of the specification following the title.

Applicant should review each benefit claim submitted and, if appropriate, provide the proper reference to the prior-filed application(s) as required by 37 CFR 1.78. A proper relationship includes an identification of each nonprovisional application as a continuation, divisional or continuation-in-part application of the immediate prior-filed nonprovisional application for which a benefit is claimed under 37 CFR 1.78 in order to establish copendency throughout the entire chain of prior-filed applications. The specific reference must be included in the domestic priority information section of an application data sheet (37 CFR 1.76), or the specification must contain, or be amended to contain, such reference in the first sentence following the title.

**Timeliness:** The required reference for each benefit claim must be filed during the pendency of the instant application and within the later of: (1) four months from the actual filing date of the instant application, or the national stage commencement date if the instant application is a national stage application under 35 U.S.C. 371; or (2) sixteen months from the filing date of the prior-filed application. Failure to timely file the required reference is considered a waiver of any benefit claim, unless a grantable petition to accept an unintentionally delayed claim under 37 CFR 1.78(a), the surcharge set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(t), and the required reference are filed. See 37 CFR 1.78(a).

#### ☐ Improper Benefit Claim(s) to Prior-Filed Nonprovisional Application(s)

The benefit claim(s) to prior-filed provisional application(s) is improper because the instant application was not filed within twelve (12) months from the filing date of the provisional application,

and there is no indication of an intermediate nonprovisional application that is directly claiming the benefit of the provisional application and filed within 12 months of the filing date of the provisional application. For example, applicant should amend the specification to include a specific reference, such as "This application is a continuation of Application No. 10/---,--- filed ---, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/---,--- filed---." in the first sentence of the specification following the title.

Applicant should review each benefit claim submitted and, if appropriate, provide the proper reference to the prior-filed applications (including an indication of any intermediate nonprovisional application that is directly claiming the benefit of the provisional application and filed with 12 months of the filing date of the provisional application) as required by 37 CFR 1.78. The required reference must be included in the domestic priority information section of an application data sheet (37 CFR 1.76), or the specification must contain, or be amended to contain, such reference in the first sentence following the title.

**Timeliness:** The required reference for each benefit claim must be filed during the pendency of the instant application and within the later of: (1) four months from the actual filing date of the instant application, or the national stage commencement date if the instant application is a national stage application under 35 U.S.C. 371; or (2) sixteen months from the filing date of the prior-filed application. Failure to timely file the required reference is considered a waiver of any benefit claim, unless a grantable petition to accept an unintentionally delayed claim under 37 CFR 1.78(a), the surcharge set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(t), and the required reference are filed during the pendency of the instant application.

☐ **Improper Priority Claim(s) to Prior-Filed Foreign Application(s)**

The instant application was not filed within twelve (12) months from the filing date of the prior-filed foreign application, and there is no benefit claim to an intermediate nonprovisional application filed within 12 months of the filing date of the foreign application. Applicant should review each priority claim submitted and, if appropriate, provide the proper reference to any intermediate nonprovisional application filed within 12 months of the filing date of the foreign application in compliance with 37 CFR 1.78, or delete the priority claim. The required reference to an intermediate nonprovisional application must be included in the domestic priority information section of an application data sheet (37 CFR 1.76), or the specification must contain, or be amended to contain, such reference in the first sentence following the title.

**Timeliness:** The required reference for the benefit claim to an intermediate nonprovisional application must be filed during the pendency of the instant application and within the later of: (1) four months from the actual filing date of the instant application, or the national stage commencement date if the instant application is a national stage application under 35 U.S.C. 371; or (2) sixteen months from the filing date of the prior-filed application. Failure to timely file the required reference is considered a waiver of any benefit claim, unless a grantable petition to accept an unintentionally delayed claim under 37 CFR 1.78(a), the surcharge set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(t), and the required reference are filed.

☐ **Benefit Claims to More Than 400 Prior-Filed Applications**

The Office's automated system to record and capture benefit claims is only capable of recording benefit claims for 400 prior-filed applications. Therefore, the Office is unable to generate a filing receipt containing benefit claims for more than 400 prior-filed applications even though applicant is entitled to submit benefit claims for more than 400 prior-filed applications. Accordingly, applicant should not request a corrected filing receipt to include benefit claims for more than 400 prior-filed applications.

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**Prior-Filed Nonprovisional Application has been Improperly Indicated as a National Stage (35**

**U.S.C. 371) Application**

Applicant submitted a benefit claim to a prior-filed nonprovisional application and improperly indicated that the prior-filed application is a national stage application under 35 U.S.C. 371. The Office's records show that the prior-filed application is an application filed under 35 U.S.C. 111(a). The Office has entered the benefit claim to the prior-filed application as a benefit claim to an application filed under 35 U.S.C. 111(a). Any request for a corrected filing receipt to include the indication that the prior-filed application is a national stage application will not be granted unless applicant supplies evidence that the prior application was in fact a national stage application. Accordingly, applicant should not submit such request without such evidence. Applicant should submit an amendment (or an application data sheet (ADS) if the benefit claim was submitted in an ADS) to delete the indication that the prior-filed application is a national stage application.

For more information and examples on benefit claims, please see Claiming the Benefit of a Prior-Filed Application under 35 U.S.C. 119(e), 120, 121, and 365(c), 1268 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 89 (March 18, 2003), which is available on the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/com/sol/og/2003/week11/patbene.htm>, and the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) §§ 201.11 and 201.14.

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE